

Message Text

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15

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 TRSE-00 MBFR-04 SAJ-01 SS-15

NSC-10 ACDA-19 H-03 OIC-04 OMB-01 DRC-01 AEC-11

AECE-00 /148 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7897

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 14550

SHAPE FOR INTAF: GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, GW, UK, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES

REF: (A) BONN 14342, (B) BONN 14287

1. DURING WEEKEND TALK WITH EMBOFF, IT BECAME APPARENT THAT SKEPTICAL GERMAN ATTITUDE TOWARD MBFR CONSTRAINTS AND PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES HAS DEEPENED STILL FURTHER. IN SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL PERFORMANCE FOR SOPHISTICATED MBFR EXPERT, RUTH REPEATEDLY INVOKED A KIND OF NEWTONIAN LAW OF MBFR---WHATEVER THE WEST DEMANDS FROM THE EAST ON SUCH STABILIZING MEASURES WILL ATTRACT AT LEAST EQUALLY UNPLEASANT COUNTER DEMANDS FROM MOSCOW.

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2. RUTH EMPHASIZED THAT BONN'S POSITION ON PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES AND CONSTRAINTS REMAINED FLUID AT THIS TIME. THIS IS BECAUSE FRG FOCUS ON THE COMMON CEILING/STATIONED INDIGENOUS REDUCTION ISSUE OVER THE LAST THREE MONTHS HAD ROBBED GERMAN OFFICIALS OF SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONSIDER FULLY ALL IMPLICATIONS OF STABILIZING TYPE MEASURES. THE MORE THE GERMANS STUDIED THESE MEASURES, THE GREATER THE POSSIBLE DANGERS THEY PERCEIVED.

3. RUTH SAID HE NOW WONDERED WHETHER MBFR PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES II AND IV WOULD BE IN THE WESTERN INTERESTS AS THEY WOULD ENTAIL A SPECIFIC DELIMITATION TO CENTRAL EUROPEAN DISARMAMENT AREA OF CSCE/CBM'S WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN ALREADY APPLICABLE ON A EUROPEAN WIDE BASIS. HENCE, THE RESULT WOULD BE SOME ADDITIONAL UNDERLINING OF A LIMITED MBFR ZONE. AS TO PRE-REDUCTION MEASURE III, RUTH RESTATED THE GERMAN WISH THAT THIS BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE NEGOTIATION OF REDUCTIONS. WHEN EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT THIS ANALYSIS WOULD LEAVE ONLY MEASURE I AMONG THE PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS, RUTH ACKNOWLEDGED THAT COULD BE THE RESULT BUT SAID IT WAS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE STUDYING THE IMPLICATIONS OF CONSTRAINTS AND PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES BEFORE A FINAL AND DEFINITIVE POSITION WAS REACHED. FOR THAT REASON, FRG WELCOMED U.S. ACCORD THAT ALL THE PRECISE MEASURES IN PARA 23 ARE "SUBJECT TO FURTHER URGENT EXAMINATION" AND THUS NOT FULLY AGREED (US NATO 4767).

4. AS TO APPLICATION OF PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES II - IV, RUTH MADE THE POINT THAT HE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THESE MEASURES COULD BE APPLIED SIMPLY TO U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES. RUTH SAID THE TYPE OF MAJOR EXERCISES ADDRESSED BY THESE MEASURES WOULD INVOLVE ALL OR AT LEAST SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE.

5. GESCHER, RUTH'S DEPUTY IN THE MBFR DEPT, TOLD EMBOFF OCT 9 THAT THE ABOVE SKEPTICISM CONCERNING PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES II - IV DID IN FACT REPRESENT THE

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TREND OF GERMAN THINKING. HE SAID RUTH HAD DISCUSSED THESE QUESTIONS OCT 4 IN LONDON WITH BRITISH OFFICIALS, WHO REPORTEDLY SHARED THE GERMAN WISH FOR A FAR DEEPER STUDY OF CONSTRAINTS AND PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES. GESCHER EMPHASIZED THAT BONN HAD NO WISH TO HOLD UP FINAL APPROVAL OF THE ALLIED PAPER, BUT NOTED THAT SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EAST OVER PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES WERE UNLIKELY TO

BEGIN FOR AT LEAST THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THE
NEGOTIATIONS.
HILLENBRAND

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